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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY**

Applicant: Johann ENGELHARDT et al. Group Art Unit: unknown
Serial No.: unknown Examiner: unknown
I.A. Filed: 14-January-1999 Attorney Ref.: 293.000218
I.A. No.: PCT/DE99/00062
Title: OPTICAL ARRANGMENT IN THE ILLUMINATION BEAM PATH OF A
MICROSCOPE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above-identified application, filed concurrently herewith under 35 U.S.C. § 371, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, line 2 (blank line), please insert:

--CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is the U.S. national phase under 35 U.S.C. 371 of International Application No. PCT/DE99/00062 filed January 14, 1999 claiming priority of German Patent Application No. 198 01 833.9 filed January 14, 1998.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION--;

At page 1, line 5 (blank line), please insert the centered heading --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--;

At page 2, line 10 (blank line), please insert the centered heading --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;

At page 2, lines 16-17, please delete "the features of Claim 1. According to this,";

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